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Central Intelligence Bulletin

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Israel-Jordan: Israeli attack on terrorist bases in
Jordan will complicate Jarring's task.

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ISRAEL-JORDAN: THE ISRAELI ATTACK DIRECTED AGAINST TERRORIST BASES IN JORDAN SUNDAY CAN ONLY COMPLICATE THE PROBLEMS OF UN NEGOTIATOR JARRING.

CONTINUING ISRAELI RELUCTANCE TO SUGGEST CONCRETE TERMS FOR A SETTLEMENT SEEMS TO PRECLUDE ANY POSSIBILITY OF DIRECT ISRAELI-JORDANIAN NEGOTIATIONS IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

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[REDACTED] THE JORDANIANS HAD ASKED JARRING TO OBTAIN A SPECIFIC STATEMENT FROM THE ISRAELIS ON WHAT THEY WOULD CONSIDER "SECURE AND RECOGNIZED BOUNDARIES," BUT ISRAEL HAS THUS FAR NOT RESPONDED, EXCEPT IN GENERALITIES. IN ANY EVENT, KING HUSAYN WOULD BE UNABLE TO AGREE TO A SETTLEMENT WHICH WOULD CEDE TO ISRAEL ANY SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF THE WEST BANK.

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KING HUSAYN IS STILL ANXIOUS TO MOVE TOWARD A SETTLEMENT, BUT IS INHIBITED BY HIS CONVICTION THAT POPULAR SUPPORT FOR THE FEDAYEEN IS GROWING. INCREASED TERRORIST ACTIVITY WILL LEAD TO FURTHER VIOLENT ISRAELI RETALIATORY STEPS WHICH IN TURN WILL HARDEN PUBLIC OPINION IN JORDAN TOWARD ANY PEACE MOVES.

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